



**Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission  
Distracted Driving Action Team  
Tuesday, April 15, 2014  
1:00 PM**

**Michigan State Police Headquarters  
333 S. Grand Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48909  
1920's Room**

<b>Attendance</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Jim Santilli, Chairman	Traffic Improvement Association of Michigan
Tom Artushin, Vice Chairman	Ford Motor Company
Renelius Bell	Ford Motor Company
Linda Fech	Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning
F/Lt. Jim Flegel	Michigan State Police
Allan Harris	Michigan Department of State
Kelli Jenkins	Mid-Michigan Medical Center
Kim Lariviere	Michigan Department of Transportation
Dave Morena	Federal Highway Administration
Carol Reagan	Michigan Department of State
Linda Wheeler	Citizen
Mia Wiggins	Citizen
Officer Tony Willis	Michigan State University Police Department

<b>Agenda Item: Call to Order and Introductions</b>
<b>Discussion:</b> Not Applicable
<b>Action:</b> Jim Santilli called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM and began with attendee introductions.

<b>Agenda Item: Review of January 21, 2014 Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Discussion:</b> Jim Santilli gave an overview of the January 21, 2014 meeting minutes. Items reviewed included the 2014 observation survey of driver cell phone use being conducted by Wayne State University, a proposed wording revision to the Distracted Driving Action Team action plan, and an analysis conducted by the Michigan State Police regarding coding on the UD-10 crash report.
<b>Action:</b> Tom Artushin made a motion to approve the January 21, 2014 meeting minutes. F/Lt. Jim Flegel seconded. The motion was approved with all in favor and none opposed.

<b>Agenda Item: Driver Education Presentation</b>
<b>Discussion:</b> Allan Harris of the Michigan Department of State gave a presentation regarding the State of Michigan's driver education curriculum. Tom Artushin recommended that a paragraph be included informing drivers to not shut off the vehicle if the accelerator pedal becomes stuck. Instead, a driver should put the vehicle in neutral. Shutting off the vehicle can disable many of the safety features.
<b>Action:</b> Carol Reagan stated Tom Artushin's recommendation is being added to the Michigan Department of State's "What Every Driver Must Know" driver education booklet.

<b>Agenda Item: Chairman's Report</b>
<b>Discussion:</b> Jim Santilli informed the Action Team about an e-mail that was sent to the Michigan State Police by a citizen. The citizen stated distracted driving enforcement is needed, and emphasized that texting and driving endangers everyone. The citizen would like to see texting and driving enforcement zones, similar to safety belt enforcement zones. A discussion regarding enforcement will be held during a later agenda item. F/Lt. Jim Flegel stated he responded to the citizen. The citizen was advised the Action Team would discuss their concern.
Jim Santilli shared the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) "U Drive. U Text. U Pay." campaign.
<b>Action:</b> Not Applicable

**Agenda Item: Vice Chairman's Report**

**Discussion:** Tom Artushin stated there will be a Ford Driving Skills for Life event at the Dearborn Proving Grounds May 1 - 4, 2014. Participants will learn about distracted driving, anti-lock brake systems, the components of the vehicle, and much more.

**Action:** Tom Artushin invited the Action Team to attend the Ford Driving Skills for Life event at the Dearborn Proving Grounds on May 3rd or 4th.

**Agenda Item: Old Business - Distracted Driving Enforcement Discussion**

**Discussion:** Jim Santilli believes enforcement is needed to reduce the number of drivers texting. However, law enforcement officials have stated that Michigan's Texting Law is tough to enforce because it is too specific to texting and does not include any other physical manipulation of the phone. He believes resources either need to be developed to aid with enforcement of Michigan's Texting Law, or the legislature needs to consider revising the law to cover any physical manipulation of a phone. Jim Santilli suggested inviting Representative Wayne Schmidt, Chairman of the Michigan House of Representative's Transportation Committee, to attend a future meeting.

F/Lt. Flegel agreed that law enforcement challenges.

The Action Team had a discussion and agreed that enforcement is needed. The Action Team also agreed that it would be beneficial to have Representative Wayne Schmidt at a future meeting to discuss the enforcement challenges that exist with Michigan's Texting Law.

**Action:** Jim Santilli will invite Representative Wayne Schmidt, Chairman of the Michigan House of Representative's Transportation Committee, to attend a future meeting.

A sub-committee was also formed to further review the law enforcement challenges with Michigan's Texting Law. The sub-committee members include: Tom Artushin, Linda Fech, F/Lt. Jim Flegel, Carol Reagan, Jim Santilli, and Tony Officer Willis.

**Agenda Item: Old Business - Action Plan Progress Update**

**Discussion:** There are no updates to the Action Plan at this time.

The following members of the Action Team updated the group on distracted driving efforts:

Kelli Jenkins stated the Michigan Injury Prevention Symposium, which is being hosted by the Michigan Trauma Coalition, will take place at Lansing Community College on May 21, 2014. Kelli Jenkins, Bonnie Raffaele, and Jim Santilli will be speaking at the event.

Linda Fech stated the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning is currently working on "Strides for a Safer Drive."

Kim Lariviere stated the Michigan Department of Transportation is using a simulator to help raise awareness about the dangers of distracted driving.

Carol Reagan stated the Michigan Department of State is working on updating "What Every Driver Must Know." Updates will include information on Kelsey's Law and Tom Artushin's recommendation about the accelerator pedal. Carol Reagan stated the book will change drastically and copies will be available at a future meeting once they are released.

F/Lt. Jim Flegel discussed the "Train Like a Trooper" program, which is a partnership between the Michigan State Police, Chrysler, and Ford Motor Company.

Jim Santilli stated the Traffic Improvement Association of Michigan continues to give distracted driving presentations, in partnership with Laurel Zimmerman, at high schools and colleges/universities throughout Michigan.

**Action:** Not Applicable

**Agenda Item: New Business - North American Conference on Elderly Mobility (NACEM) Update**

**Discussion:** Kim Lariviere, Chairwoman of the 2014 North American Conference on Elderly Mobility (NACEM), informed the Action Team that NACEM will take place in Detroit during May 11 - 14, 2014. Keynote speakers will include Lou Waters and Mitch Albom. An automotive panel and tour of the OnStar command center will also be featured. NACEM was last held during 2004 and attracted international attendees.

**Action:** Kim Lariviere distributed NACEM informational materials and invited Action Team members to attend.

<b>Agenda Item: New Business - Discussion of Automotive Safety Demonstration at Next Meeting</b>
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<b>Discussion:</b> Jim Santilli expressed interest in hosting a future meeting at a location where automotive safety technology could be demonstrated. A discussion was held and Tom Artushin offered to host the group at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn.
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<b>Action:</b> Tom Artushin will coordinate with Jim Santilli to host the October 14, 2014 meeting at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn.
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<b>Agenda Item: Action Team and Public Comments</b>
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<b>Discussion:</b> Linda Wheeler and Mia Wiggins expressed interest in attending future meetings and helping to educate the public about the dangers of distracted driving.
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<b>Action:</b> Mia Wiggins will send Jim Santilli her contact information so she can receive future meeting notices.
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<b>Agenda Item: Adjournment</b>
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<b>Discussion:</b> Not Applicable
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<b>Action:</b> Jim Santilli adjourned the meeting at 3:03 PM
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<b><u>Future Meeting Dates</u></b>
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July 15, 2014: 1:00 PM, Michigan State Police Headquarters, 1920's Room
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October 14, 2014: 10:00 AM, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn Proving Grounds
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